

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 528

By Harwell

A RESOLUTION to celebrate June 2017 as "Pets Matter Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, pets give love, companionship, and support for people; and

WHEREAS, pets get people moving, encouraging activity that is good for health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, pets can lift spirits and help lower depression and loneliness; and

WHEREAS, pets can reduce illness risks, lower blood pressure, and improve heart attack survival rates; and

WHEREAS, pets can help children with cognitive, social, and educational development; and

WHEREAS, pets can motivate older adults to stay active and remain healthy longer; and

WHEREAS, pets in public places help people make new social connections; and

WHEREAS, pets in a neighborhood help people feel safer; and

WHEREAS, pets in the workplace reduce stress, increase morale, and give people better work-life balance; and

WHEREAS, all of these pet truths have been supported by scientific research, including from Mars Petcare's Waltham Centre for Pet Nutrition; and

WHEREAS, Mars Petcare and its businesses, such as the Pedigree® and Nutro® brands and Banfield® and Blue Pearl® veterinary practices, have committed to creating A BETTER WORLD FOR PETS®; and

WHEREAS, Mars Petcare has made the great State of Tennessee its United States home, with both its headquarters and an Innovation Center here; and

WHEREAS, Mars Petcare US has created the BETTER CITIES FOR PETS™ program that launches here first with initiatives in Davidson and Williamson counties and targets advances for shelters, homes, businesses, and parks; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with Mars Petcare US, Nashville Mayor Megan Barry has convened a working group to develop a model for pet-friendly cities and has established the Mayor's National Welfare Advisory Council on animal welfare issues for Nashville and Davidson County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby join with Mars Petcare US in celebrating June 2017 as "Pets Matter Month" in Tennessee. We applaud Mars Petcare's BETTER CITIES FOR PETS™ program and its efforts to make life better for pets and people here in its home State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.